Calcoin News

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE

California State Numismatic Association

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Volume 12, Number 1

JANUARY 1958

A Russian Medal

By JAMES TODOROVIC, Berkeley

While checking the Russian coins and medals which once belonged to the late Grand Duke Georgii Mikhailovich[1], the writer noticed the bronze medal reproduced here.

The obverse bears the portrait of Tsar Alexander I and the year 1814. What was most intriguing was the inscription on the reverse. When translated, this reads as follows: "To the Ruler of the Sandwich Islands Tamaree as a token of his friendship to the Russians".

Why did the Russian Tsar have this medal struck for somebody named "Tamaree"? Why was this person addressed as the ruler of the Sandwich Islands when it is known that, at least from 1810 to his death on May 5, 1819, King Kamehameha I was ruler of the Sandwich (i.e. Hawaiian) Islands? Why would the Tsar of Russia bother with such matters as having a "friendship" medal struck for someone in the Hawaiian Islands while Russia was engaged in a war with Napoleon I and together with other European nations was concerned with driving Napoleon out of France and ultimately into the Atlantic Ocean?

* * *

In the latter part of the eighteenth century the Sandwich Islands were divided into four separate kingdoms. By the turn of the nineteenth century, and more specifically, by 1810, King Kamehameha I became the actual ruler of all the Hawaiian Islands. He did, however, allow Kaumualii to remain as feudal king of the island of Kauai, paying allegiance and tribute to Kamehameha I.

At about the same time, the Russian American Fur Co., which was chartered by the Tsar of Russia and which had a monopoly of the fur trade in Alaska, found it difficult to obtain food s u p p l i e s. There were times when the Russian colonists in Alaska were on the verge of starvation, so that it was quite evident to Baranoff, the resident agent of the company and governor of the colony, that unless he could tap a better source of supplies than Siberia, the colony would have to be abandoned. Baranoff therefore hoped to establish trading posts both in California and the Hawaiian Islands. In fact, it is for this reason that in 1812 the Russians, in open defiance of the Spanish governor, established their fortified post, Fort Ross, on the coast of California north of San Francisco.

The immediate results of the agricultural experiments at Fort Ross were not sufficient to feed the hungry Alaskans, and B a r a n o f f was

[1] *The Numismatist*, July 1957, page 790.

forced in January 1814 to send a ship to the Hawaiian Islands to acquire the necessary supplies. A cargo was secured at Oahu. However, as the ship sailed for its home port in Alaska, it sprang a leak and had to put into Waimei Bay, Kauai, where it was wrecked by a sudden storm. A large portion of the cargo was saved by King Kaumualii and his men, who, however, refused to turn it over to the ship's captain. The latter, upon his return to Sitka, urged Baranoff to send an expeditionary force against Kaumualii. Instead, Baranoff sent a Dr. Georg Anton Scheffer, who was a surgeon on one of the company's ships. It appears that the main object for Scheffer's trip to the Islands was to persuade King Kamehameha I either to return the cargo from the wrecked ship, or, if it were no longer available, to request payment for it in sandalwood. This would be loaded on two of the company's ships which were to follow Scheffer to the Islands. Scheffer also was instructed to try to arrange for permanent trade relations between the company and Hawaii.

Scheffer was very successful, at least with the first part of his mission. Both Kamehameha I and Kaumualii agreed to return the Russian cargo. The ease with which Scheffer gained his points probably went to his head. While on the island of Kauai, he induced Kaumualii to grant him a lease to the Hanalei valley (on Kauai), and also suggested that Kaumualii declare his independence from Kamehameha and, at the same time, place himself under the protection of the Russian Tsar.[2] Scheffer then erected a fort at Waimei, and raised the Russian flag thereon.

As soon as this came to the attention of Kamehameha, the latter sent a messenger to Kaumualii with orders to expel Scheffer. By this time Kaumualii was convinced (by the American and English traders) of the dangerous position into which he had placed himself. He, therefore, requested Scheffer and his men to leave Kauai. Seeing that evcryone was against him, Scheffer shipped his men to Sitka, while he himself fled to China.

In the meantime, immediately after his first success with Kamehameha and Kaumualii, Scheffer sent a report to the officials of the Russian American Fur Co. in St. Petersburg. In this report, Scheffer gave a glowing account of the possible riches. This dazzled the Russian officials to such a degrec that they appealed to Tsar Alexander I to send troops to the Hawaiian Islands to occupy at least the islands of Kauai and Oahu which, according to them, were turned over to Russia by King Kaumualii. The Tsar, however, was not convinced that the handing over (even if true) was done willingly and voluntarily. He, therefore decided to have this matter investigated.[3] In the meantime, he ordered that various presents be sent to Kaumualii, and that a medal be struck and deliverod to him — this medal to be addressed to the "ruler of the Sandwich Islands."[4] According to Dr. Frank A. Golder, late professor of history at Stanford University, "Tomaree" was one of King Kaumualii's names.[5] It is for this reason that the medal was thus addressed to "Tamaree", as ruler of the Sandwich Islands, which latter title may have been a deliberate, but expedient, cxaggeration.

* * *

The three questions which originally beset the author have thus been answered. The fact that Dr. Scheffer exceeded his authority when he tried (with apparent success) to induce Kaumualii (i.e., Tomaree) to break away from King Kamehameha should be conceded. The records show that Baranoff and the directors of thc Russian American Fur Co., as well as the Russian government, all repudiated Scheffer's actions.[6]

However, at least one point still remains unanswered: Did Tomaree actually try to hand over the Hawaiian Islands to Russia, and thus be one of the early Quislings?

* * *

(Written for the East Bay Coin Club's 1957 Numismatic Article Contest)

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[2] *Life of Baranoff* (St. Petersburg. 1835), pages 164-165.

[3] Archives of the Russian Ministry of Commerce and Industry, 1817, No. 350.

[4] Ibid., 1844, No. 1501.

[5] "*Hawaii — Early Relations With England, Russia and France*", edited by A. P. Taylor and R. S. Kuykendall.

[6] "*A History of Hawaii*" (1926), by Ralph S. Kuykendall, pages 94-96.

That city and county scrip as a depression currency had its bad as well as its good points is shown in this story of Eureka Springs, a small city of 2000 population, situated in the heart of the Ozark Mountains of Northwest Arkansas. A resort, this "Little Switzerland of America" attracts 175,000 tourists annually. Unique in many ways, the city has been mentioned in Ripley's "Believe It Or Not" feature more times than has any other community.

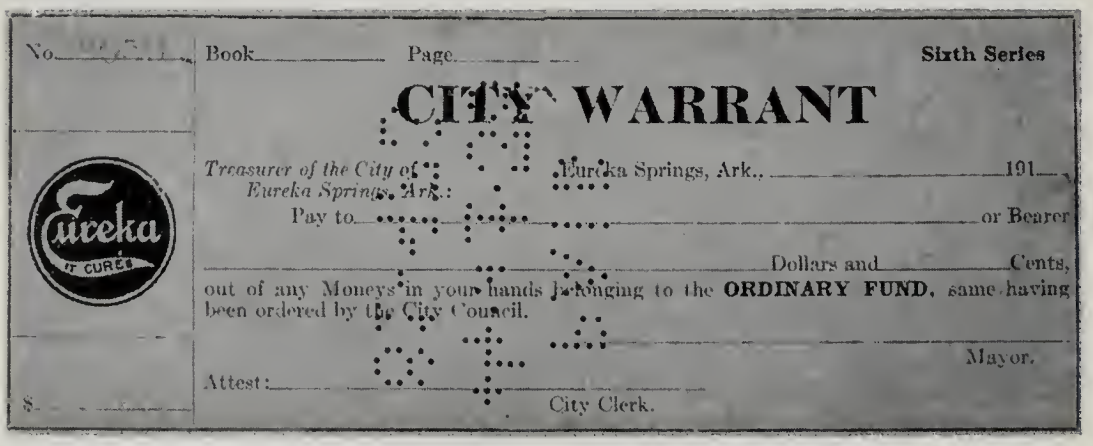
Eureka Springs, Ark., Scrip

By CHARLES V. KAPPEN, San Jose

Named on July 4, 1879, Eureka Springs, Ark., began functioning as a town in 1880. In its early years, the city boasted a population of 20,000 persons, drawn there largely by its health-giving waters. There are 63 springs within its limits. Both town and surrounding area were dotted with tents, box structures and other forms of shelter as squatters flocked in.

This scrip was legal tender, which the city had to receive as legal money for any debt due it. The result was that people paid their taxes, licenses and fines with scrip and actual hard money did not come into the treasury. It was a situation which was getting worse and worse. By 1911 the scrip was worth but 10 cents on the dollar.

When the city had something to



On Dec. 30, 1884, the United States issued a patent for the lands at Eureka Springs, under an old Act of Congress known as the "Town Site Law". Eureka Springs was incorporated as a city at about that time, adopting the aldermanic form of government.

It weathered the depression of 1893 and the panic of 1907, but found itself slightly more than $40,000 in debt by 1911, the debt being represented by floating scrip.

Since its birth, the city had had a very meager tax hold. It had taken in some money from taxes, licenses, fines and other sources, but even so, in its short history, these moneys had proved insufficient. When its money ran out, its treasury checks could not be paid and it issued scrip.

buy, if no more than a shovel priced at $1, cost to the community was $10. The debt had reached a point where it was snowballing and nothing was being done about it.

In Arkansas, cities and counties are empowered to call in scrip for redemption or reissue. It is a plan to which they have resorted many times, either when their debts have become so out of hand as to be hopeless or their bookwork so indiscriminate that they could not tell how much they owed.

Calling in scrip nearly always results in some portion of it never showing up; hence, some profit nearly always results. At worst, no more is issued than already existed and at least the county or city learns to the dollar the amount it is in debt. The

amount of reissue fixes the amount of the debt.

On April 10, 1911, F. O. Butt became mayor, being elected on a "reform" ticket. Other city officials elected were William Jenkins, R. B. Kelley, E. C. Davis, J. W. Newport, William Kappen, Anthony Hatcher, C. E. Vanderventer and L. L. Park.

In that year, the city officials called in all outstanding scrip for redemption or reissue and notified all holders that scrip would be redeemed at 25 cents on the dollar, or in due time would be reissued. It was stated that none would be cashed unless the total outstanding was presented for redemption. The Fidelity Trust Co. of Kansas City, Mo., lent $10,000 to the city, to be repaid in an amount of at least $2500 a year, plus 6 per cent interest.

The loan was obtained by Mayor Butt personally, under a contract that guaranteed the annual payment and provided that at the option of the borrower, the debt would be canceled on payment of any moneys advanced and of accrued interest.

All outstanding scrip except $400 was deposited for redemption within 30 days; only one person, Lou Hannecke, refusing to turn that amount in.

During the term of that city administration, actual cash coming into the city treasury was sufficient to pay off the loan to the Fidelity Trust Co., because the city at once went on a cash basis.

* * *

The scrip illustrated, one of the pieces held by Hannecke, was not redeemed until April 1, 1938. Printed on off-white paper in black type, the warrant measures 3⅛ by 7⅜ inches. The serial number is stamped in, in red. Signatures of mayor and city clerk appear. Edges are rouletted.

LITERARY AWARDS CHAIRMAN

Leonel C. Panosh, San Diego, has been appointed literary awards committee chairman by Harry S. Davidson, CSNA president. Panosh will select the other two committee members. First and second place medals will be awarded at the Fresno convention for the two best numismatic articles appearing in **Calcoin News** during 1957. Abe Kosoff and Milton Strauch were 1956 winners.

BAG MARKS ON COINS

A teenage collector asked Mrs. Pearl Young at the Long Beach convention to show him coins described in the auction catalog as having "bag marks". Mrs. Young dug out the lot for the lad.

"Oh!" he exclaimed, "I thought bag marks meant scratches under the eyes."

SAN DIEGANS VACATION

Dr. Bruce L. Wallace, founder and member No. 1 of the San Diego Numismatic Society, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Chamberlain, left Sept. 28 on a 6-weeks vacation trip of 8300 miles. Points of interest included West Palm Beach and Key West, Fla., the Bahama Islands and Havana, Cuba.

GOLD CERTIFICATES

United States gold currency faces extinction unless prompt steps are taken to stop government officials from confiscating existing specimens. A considerable number of these notes have been seized and others are subject to seizure when found.

Dr. Charles Ruby, president of the Long Beach Coin Club, is actively crusading against this government policy and urges all numismatists to write their congressmen and other government officials protesting and requesting that the law be amended to make all remaining gold certificates numismatic items, exempt from seizure. "Gold is now exempt, and it seems reasonable," he said, "that gold certificates should have the same status." **Editor's Note:** Coin clubs and individuals should write their congressmen on this matter.

HOME FROM HOSPITAL

Winn Osborne, CSNA secretary, returned home from the hospital after a major ulcer operation in November. Ordered by the doctor to stay home and rest for a month, he missed the Long Beach convention, but recovered rapidly and returned to work early in December. William H. Spence was his substitute at the convention.

Exhibits and Awards

BALLARD, Robert S., Long Beach: Freak U.S. Money.

BASSETTI, Del, San Luis Obispo: Order of Danebrog, Denmark. **Non-Competitive.**

BOWERS, Dr. Nathan A., Atherton: Display "Critique" on U.S. eoin sizes.

CARR, Michael K., Vallejo: Negro educators on coins.

CLARKE, A. G., Oakland: Religious mottoes.

COLVER, Charles G., Glendora: "English Coins, Why Not?" **Third Award, Specialized.**

EMMONS, Dr. Calvert L., Ontario: So-Called Dollars.

GERTH, Walter G., Vallejo: Widow's mite and tribute penny; odd and eurious moneys. **First Award, Ancient.**

GRIFFIN, Ida Mae, Long Beach: U.S. finds from eirculation.

HALDIMAN, John C., Anaheim: Odd and eurious moneys. **First Award, Unclassified.**

HARLEY, Dan, Pomona: Fifty-seven types of eagles on U.S. coins. **Second Award, U.S.**

HILL, Roy, San Francisco: Coins of aneient times. **Second Award, Ancient.**

HOPPERSTAD, Diana and Donna, Vallejo: "We Colleet Box Tops." **First Award, Junior.**

JAKOBSEN, A. G. K., Daly City: Double set of U.S. commemoratives.

JOHNSON, Charles M., Long Beaeh: U.S. types. **Third Award, U.S.**

KAGIN, Art M., Des Moines, Iowa: Kagin Reference Collection. **Non-Competitive.**

KAPPEN, Charles V., San Jose: Modern eoins of Korea, a type set.

LISS, Clifford L., San Franciseo: Coins of the Philippines. **First Award, U.S.; BEST-IN-SHOW.**

McCABE, Harold, Long Beach: Canadian dollars and U.S. buffalo niekels. **Non-Competitive.**

McGEE, J. R., Long Beaeh: Dynasty eoins of China.

MEYER, Ernest A., San Franeiseo: Bieentennial of General Lafayette; "We All Make Mistakes"; "What Is Money?"

NESTLE, Jack B., Hollywood: The lowly eash pieees of China. **First Award, Specialized.**

OSTEREICH, G. E., Anaheim: Coin sets and special issues. **Second Award, Unclassified.**

PARKER, Earl A., San Franeisco: History of Order of St. John of Jerusalem. **Non-Competitive.**

PATTERSON, Mabel D., Daly City: "Decorations, Demoeracy and Deeorum". **First Award, Medals and Decorations.**

PATTERSON, Robert G., Daly City: U.S. freak coins.

PELTRET, Bill L., Venice: Capsule story of America in eoins.

PETRIE, Paul, Vallejo: U.S. paper money. **Second Award, Paper Money.**

RUBY, Charles L., Fullerton: Tree money of Japan.

SAMPSON, Abel, Long Beach: Presidential medals. **Second Award, Medals and Decorations.**

SNEDAKER, Paul D., San Franeiseo: "California and Gold."

STOPPELWERTH, John, Fullerton: U.S. paper money. **First Award, Paper Money.**

STRAUCH, Milton D., Daly City: Coins of the Portuguese Empire. **Second Award, Specialized.**

WERLING, Erieh, Oakland: Oversize multiple talers. **First Award, Modern.**

WILLIAMS, Ben W., Lakewood: Half dollars and dollars of the world. **Third Award, Modern.**

ZUMWALT, Louis E., Lakewood: British Empire sets; U.S. and foreign issues. **Second Award, Modern; Third Award, Unclassified.**

* * * *

AWARDS COMMITTEE: George Bennett, chairman; Neal McKinley and Francis S. Jones.

Long Beach Convention

By CHARLES M. JOHNSON

New CSNA convention records were set at Long Beach, April 7-10, for registration (307) and for number of dealers in the bourse (50). Attendance at the numismatic forum was 147; at the banquet, 202; at the club officers' breakfast, 42; and at the post-mortem luncheon, 37. Thirty-six exhibitors used 71 cases in setting up 41 exhibits, a third-best CSNA total.

During the first CSNA convention in Long Beach in 1950, registration totaled 154. There were 33 exhibitors and 18 bourse dealers seven years ago.

Even before opening day, it had become apparent that the convention would exceed expectations. Convention-bound guests began to arrive early for trips, visits, relaxation and extra pre-convention coin business. At the last minute, calls went out for additional tables and display cases to care for the needs of dealers and exhibitors. Nearly every section of California was represented, with residents of Florida, New York and the Midwest present.

In the rush of preparation, John Yribarne, busy convention general chairman, lost a night's sleep and some weight. Long Beach Coin Club members worked late in exhibit and bourse rooms, getting everything ready.

On opening day, hard-working Grace Brainard plunged into the task of registering incoming guests. Four days later she reported a new record. John Haldiman was registration chairman. Mrs. Brainard, Charles Boothe, Al Wilkinson and Lyn Sims were his committee. Maurice Jensen signed up 50 bourse dealers, to establish another new record. Roy Hill was exhibits chairman.

NUMISMATIC FORUM

When the numismatic forum opened, under the able chairmanship of Sol Alexander, 147 gathered to hear Dr. C. Glenn Curtis and Abe Kosoff. Kosoff discussed coin grading. His paper, which will be published, surveyed the dealer-collector relationship and made many pertinent observations on the qualifications and morality of dealers in grading and selling coins. Dr. C. Glenn Curtis' entertaining forum talk presented Ecuador and its money, illustrated with colored slides and a large display of coins and artifacts of Ecuador. Speaker and audience became so absorbed in the talk that Herbert Bergen rang a firebell to bring the audience back to earth and tell them a coin auction was starting.

CLUB OFFICERS' BREAKFAST

Dr. Charles L. Ruby conducted the club officers' breakfast meeting, with 42 early risers present. Many suggestions were made for improvement of club activities and considerable discussion developed on various ways that different clubs are assisting junior members. A surprising number of junior members belong to the coin clubs, with one club having 20 junior members. Some clubs do nothing for the younger members, while others have distinct programs. In one case a junior auxiliary club with its own officers is sponsored. Another club has a special auction for junior members. Two clubs have adults working with the juniors to assist them in collecting. Consensus of the meeting was that more attention and effort should be devoted to junior collectors, with special activities and programs for them.

SATURDAY BANQUET

Don Sherer, ANA director and CSNA member, was master of ceremonies for the Saturday evening banquet, with entertainment provided by the Four Bits of Harmony, a barbershop quartet, and the Licon Brothers, two strolling marachis. George Bennett, awards chairman, presented ribbons to the winners for various classes of exhibits, and the best-in-show medal to Clifford L. Liss of San Francisco. Colleen McCormac, a member of CSNA since she was four months old, presided over the drawing and distribution to banquet guests of 30 door prizes

presented by the Long Beach Coin Club.

BUSINESS MEETING

Officers and board members accepted bids of Leo Young to conduct auctions in conjunction with Fresno and Riverside conventions. At the regular business meeting of all members, a motion was adopted to select and sponsor a California man for an ANA directorship.

SEEN AT THE CONVENTION

Among early convention arrivals was Leonel C. Panosh, former ANA and CSNA president, ready for a good time; but the doctor ordered him to his hotel bed for the duration with a bad case of flu. Harry Davidson, CSNA president, dashed back and forth from his bank to preside at the various functions. John Ohls, CSNA vice-president, was everywhere visiting and filling in where needed. Robert McArthur, former CSNA president, enjoyed one of his first conventions without the responsibility of office and with time to visit and look over coins. Charles V. Kappen, **Calcoin News** editor and professor of journalism, cut class early Friday at San Jose State College, so he could make the convention. Dr. Calvert Emmons, first president, attended every convention activity.

In addition to those mentioned, all members of the convention committee should be remembered for their work, and especially Ida Mae Griffin, for providing excellent entertainment for the ladies and the banquet; Howard Stolper for bourse and exhibit lighting; Charles Johnson for publicity and the many members of the Long Beach Coin Club who did so much of the convention work.

DEALERS' BOURSE

Convention bourse tables were held by dealers as follows: A. C. Barlow, Glendale; Del Bassetti, San Luis Obispo; Karl Brainard, Los Angeles; Jerry Cohen, Tucson, Ariz.; Fred Coops, Jr., San Bernardino; Merle Crandall, San Mateo; Richard DeMers, San Clemente; Dean Duffy, Long Beach; C. A. Dunbar, Inglewood; H. H. Engelhardt, Montrose; Edward Gans, Berkeley; M. L. Godbey, Oakland; Floyd Hazelwood, Salina, Kans.; Richard Hedrick, Los Angeles; A. G. K. Jakobsen, Daly City; W. E. Johnson, Santa Barbara; Charles Jones, Los Angeles; Don Jurgensen, Santa Barbara; Max Justus, Beverly Hills; S. J. Kabealo, Pasadena; Paul Kagin, Des Moines, Iowa; I. B. Knickerbocker, San Diego; A. Kosoff, Encino; Abner Kreisberg, Beverly Hills; Kenneth Lee, Glendale; H. McCabe, Long Beach; W. W. McFarren, Los Angeles; Lewis Moorman, Berkeley; E. E. Morrison, Long Beach; Robert Odom, Hollywood; Earl A. Parker, San Francisco; Pete Payne, San Bernardino; Charles N. Peters, Alameda; Dr. Ray O. Porter, San Luis Obispo; Donald Rhodes, Vallejo; Rosing and Johnson, San Francisco; F. K. Saab, New York City; William Sexton, Santa Maria; Norman Shultz, Salt Lake City, Utah; John Skubis, San Francisco; William H. Smith, San Francisco; Russ Snyder, Burbank; J. O. Stanley, Santa Maria; William Fox Steinberg, Miami, Fla.; Rowland Stokes, San Diego; Howard Stolper, Burbank; H. Tedtman, Long Beach; L. E. Williams, Long Beach; Leo Young, Oakland; Mrs. W. E. Johnson, Santa Barbara.

SUNDAY LUNCHEON

Forty-five persons turned out for the Sunday luncheon, with Harry Davidson, CSNA president, in charge. Everyone joined in the postmortem discussion of the convention and came up with the answer, "It was one of the best."

CONVENTION AUCTION

The three-session convention auction featured 2700 lots. Leo Young reports active bidding and stable prices. Some of the prices realized follow:

Lot No.		Brought
240	5 pc. Austria gold set, unc. and proof	$140.00
335	Roll 1942S 1c, unc.	25.50
520	1886 50c, proof	72.00
548	1914 50c, proof	322.00
549	1915 50c, proof	400.00
691	1873 2c, proof	131.00
715	1936 proof set	335.00
1150	1878CC trade dollar, unc.	155.00
1210	1938PDS Boone set, unc.	280.00
1307	1794 50c, G/VG	105.00
1308	1795 50c, two leaves, VF	39.00
1309	1796 50c, F/VF	575.00
1310	1797 50c, G/VG	375.00
1392	1877 1c Indian, proof	215.00

AUCTION PRICES REALIZED

Lot No.	Brought
1414—Commemorative 50c, complete type set, unc.	$ 650.00
1456—18950 10c, unc.	330.00
1786—1909S VDB 1c, roll, EF	1750.00
1788—1914D 1c, roll, VG	660.00
1818—1873 $3 gold, proof	515.00
1834—1895 $1, proof	570.00
1855—'34-'56 1c, roll, unc.	560.00
1859—1856 FE 1c, unc.	550.00
1861—Lincoln 1c, complete set, unc.	900.00
1889—Panama-Pacific set in copper frame	3600.00
1890—1879 $4 Stella, flowing hair, proof	1250.00

Young reports that this was one of the best conventions in which he has participated. He says his bourse sales were about equal to those at the ANA convention.

FRESNO CHAIRMAN

Philip M. Nattenberg has been appointed general chairman for the Fresno convention April 10-13 by H. S. Davidson, CSNA president. President Davidson reports adequate hotel facilities for bourse, exhibits, auction and forum, all on the ground floor and in adjacent rooms. William Y. Lee will be bourse chairman. Leo A. Young will conduct the auction.

FRESNO AUCTION

Leo A. Young, 3244 Grand Ave., Oakland, Calif., has been awarded the auction to be held in conjunction with the CSNA convention in Fresno, Calif., April 10-13, 1958.

Young is now accepting consignments for that sale.

This will be Young's 11th consecutive CSNA convention sale, a record believed to be unequaled in the United States for any auctioneer at a regional or national convention.

———CSNA———

33rd DEGREE MASON

Leonel C. Panosh, San Diego, has been elected to receive the 33rd degree (honorary) in Masonry. In Masonic circles, this is quite an achievement, because the award, for service and merit, cannot be applied for.

———CSNA———

NEXT SOUTHERN CONVENTION

San Bernardino County Coin Club will be host for the next Southern California CSNA convention, which will be held at the Mission Inn in Riverside during the fall of 1958.

SAN FRANCISCO AUCTION

Bids from dealers are requested for the auction sale to be held in conjunction with the California State Numismatic Association convention in San Francisco, Calif., in April, 1959.

Award of the auction will be made by the CSNA board of directors and officers at their **Saturday** meeting during the Fresno convention. The award will be made one year ahead of the convention, to give the successful b i d d e r sufficient time to obtain consignments and to prepare his catalog.

Written bids only are acceptable. These should be addressed to Winn O s b o r n e, secretary, 440 Via Val Verde, Montebello, Calif., or to Harry Davidson, president, 2960 The Mall, Los Angeles, Calif.

Bids should be submitted not later than March 15, 1958.

All bids entered will receive the proper consideration of officers and directors at the Saturday meeting.

Long Beach Convention

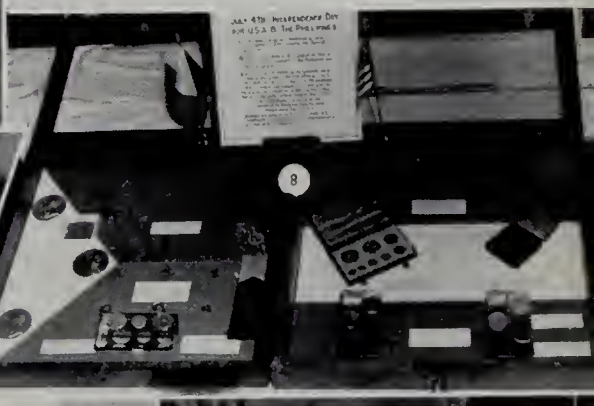
Cutlines

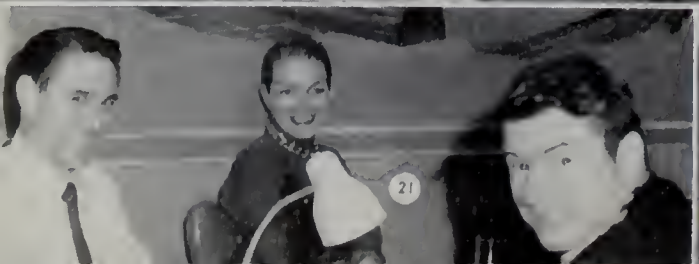
SEE PICTURES, NEXT PAGE

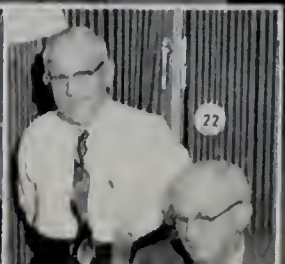
1. Head table at banquet. 2 and 4. Dr. C. L. Emmons presents exhibit award ribbons. 3. Mrs. Dick Yeoman, Mrs. Paul Snedaker, Leonel C. Panosh, Mrs. L. C. Panosh, Mrs. Jones, Ralph A. Mitchell; backs to camera, Mrs. Milton Strauch, Paul Snedaker, Milton Strauch and Peter B. Payne. 4. Dr. Emmons, Mabel Patterson, Charles Colver, Clifford Liss and Milton Strauch; Mrs. Stewart Bingham and Jimmie Young in foreground. 5. Dan Harley. 6. Mrs. Pearl Young. 7. Leo A. Young. 8. July 4th exhibit. 9. Don Sherer, master of ceremonies. 10. Neil McKinley, Ben Williams, Don Rhodes and Alf Anderson. 11. Charley Grimm and Abe Kosoff. 12. Charles V. Kappen, Calcoin News editor, and Harry S. Davidson, CSNA president. 13. Kenneth W. Lee. 14. Art Kagin, the cops and John Stoppelwerth, "accuser". 15. Peter B. Payne. 16. Ralph A. Mitchell, his "Bottoms Up" award, and Dan Brown. 17. Charley Ruby, Louis E. Zumwalt, assistant historian, and friends. 18. Banquet scene: Earl A. Parker, Mrs. K. W. Lee, Kenneth Lee, Alice Redfield, Dave Redfield, A. G. K. Jakobsen; on right, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Patterson. 19. Herb Bergen and F. K. Saab. 20. Mrs. R. G. McArthur, R. G. McArthur and Mrs. John Yribarne. 21. Lee Kuntz at bourse. 22. Erich Werling, historian, and Robert Patterson. 23. Charles M. Johnson and Miss Colleen McCormac. 24. Sam Kabealo and Norman Shultz. 25. T. Kirk Hill, treasurer, and Earl A. Parker. 26. Mrs. Harry S. Davidson. 27. Tommie Hill, Mrs. T. Kirk Hill, T. Kirk Hill, Mrs. C. Glenn Curtis and Charles Colver.

Convention Scenes

21st Semi-Annual, Nov. 7-10, 1957







At Long Beach

Photography by Dr. C. Glenn Curtis

East Bay 'Coinival'

Highlight of the East Bay Coin Club "Coinival" Oct. 13 was presentation of their winning papers in the Numismatic Article contest by Stanley Hawley, James Todorovic and Walter Ritchie.

Registration, despite a stormy weekend, totaled 201, including visitors and members from Chico, Stockton, San Jose, Santa Barbara and other cities. A. W. Ritchie was coinival general chairman.

An auction, chairmaned by Ed Fogler and cried by Earl Parker and Leo Young, consisted of 150 lots. There were 12 dealers in the bourse.

Gil Eaton, entertainment chairman, presented members of the Oakland Boys' Club, the "Hamboners", the "Bobettes", a drill team and a calypso group.

Refreshments and dinner committee was composed of Mrs. Thelma Fieberling, Mrs. Gil Eaton and Mrs. Ellis.

Dr. A. G. Clarke, first place winner in the general group of exhibitors, was awarded a gold ribbon for best-in-show. Other display winners were United States group, A. G. K. Jakobsen, first; A. W. Ritchie, second; Howard Boarman, third. Foreign group, Kirby Brown, first; Erich Werling, second; Clifford Bloom, third. General group, Sidney Haas, second; Leo Young, third.

Awards committee was composed of John E. Ohls, San Francisco; Neal McKinley, Vallejo and Norman F. Pruitt, Stockton.

Thirteen manuscripts were entered in the Numismatic Article contest, seven in the non-professional and six in the professional sections. Those classified "professionals" were dealers and persons who previously had had articles published in state or national magazines.

In the non-professional category, winners were Stanley Hawley, "The Ancient Greeks and Their Coins", first award; James Todorovic, "A Russian Medal to the 'Ruler of the Sandwich Islands' ", second, and Oleg Maslenikov, "The Broad Overstrike Rubles", third. Other papers in this group were "A Short History of Roman Coinage" by Kirby Brown, "Life Story of a Lincoln Cent" by Jack Frost, "The Short Life of the U.S. Trade Dollar" by Ed Lane, and "Victoria in the Colonies" by Beverly G. Smith.

Professional category winners were A. W. Ritchie, "Lohan Cash or 'Lucky Cash' ", first; Don Thrall, "A History of the Wells Fargo Bank", second, and Roy Hill, "A Monetary Review of Finland", third. John E. Ohls was author of "The Descendants of an Eagle"; Leo Young of "The Story Behind Money" and Sidney Haas of "Crusaders and Their Coins".

Prizes in each category were $25, $15 and $10 for first, second and third places, respectively. Ritchie donated his prize money to the East Bay Coin Club coffee fund.

Each paper was judged by three persons. Fred Monteagle, Don Rhodes, Gil Eaton, John Ohls and Charles V. Kappen were judges.

Protection of exhibits and bourse was provided by the Oakland Police Department.

CALCOIN NEWS

Official Publication of the
California State Numismatic Association

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CSNA members receive Calcoin News without additional cost beyond their annual dues of $2.

Vol. XII JANUARY 1958 No. 1

Mikhailovich Collection

(Reprinted from Numismatic Fine Arts List No. 22, Fall 1957, by permission of Edward Gans, 10 Rock Lane, Berkeley, California.)

Among the world's greatest collections, the coins and medals assembled by the late Grand Duke George Mikhailovich were long celebrated in numismatic circles for specialization **par excellence.** For, indeed, they were the substance upon which the Grand Duke had based his monumental work on the coinages of his native land and upon which he had published 12 scientific volumes.

When the Grand Duke died at the hands of the Bolsheviks in 1919, his entire collection was spirited away into concealment. Only in 1930 did his wife, the Princess Mary of Greece, come into their possession. During the next two decades the collection once more moved from country to country in a remarkable series of wanderings. Not until 1950 did plans begin to materialize for their ultimate disposition, and then only a small portion of the vast holdings, the 477 lots of gold and platinum, were sold in London. The most important portion, 10,000 silver and copper coins and 4000 medals, many of the pieces unique and all in varying degrees of high rarity, were shipped to New York.

For the next four years the heirs considered disposition but reached no decision until various parties recommended my firm and my personal services. However, when in the fall of 1954, they approached me, such was their faith that we were able to conclude an agreement within the space of two hours. The entire collection, aggregating a weight of 1000 pounds, was shipped across the continent to me in Berkeley, Calif., and I was informed that I was "free to do whatever you deem necessary".

I accepted this position of trust with a sense of the grave responsibility it entailed. Twelve hundred little parcels, wrapped but hardly identified, had to be examined, inventoried, checked and reclassified. Two new catalogs had to be written with the greatest of care. In rearranging and reattributing the material, entirely new numismatic problems had to be studied and solved. Here were pieces so excessively rare, if not unique, that their like had never been seen before. Difficult, enervating and sometimes baffling work, but it had to be done in order to carry out to the letter the commission entrusted to me. Fortunately, I had not only the patient assistance of Mrs. Gans but also the skillful aid of my devoted friend, Dr. James Todorovic.

The decision was to sell the entire collection intact so that this remarkable pool of information on Russian coinages might be available to future generations as a unit. As already announced in the press and in numismatic journals, THE GEORGE MIKHAILOVICH COLLECTION IS SOLD!

Collections of this high quality are not likely to come up but once in a generation.

Now, with great satisfaction, I am able to reproduce a letter from Princess Xenia Romanoff to me, indicating her pleasure with my services:

Glen Cove
June 17, '57

My dear Mr. Gans

I should like to express to you our deep appreciation for the work you have done on the rare coin and medal collection of my father, the Grand Duke George of Russia, and also for the successful handling of its sale.

My sister and I were much gratified to learn it is to be kept intact as a whole collection, which was always its purpose.

Please accept our most sincere thanks for the part you have taken in this matter.

My sister joins me in sending you our kindest regards.

Most sincerely yours,
(Signed) Princess Xenia

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Dr. Curtis Paxman of Norwalk, CSNA board member, has been appointed membership chairman for the Association.

Who's Who In California Numismatics

Alexander W. Ritchie

By R. G. McARTHUR

Once a year, in early October, the East Bay Coin Club of Oakland sponsors a "coinival". This one-day gathering of "numismaniacs", featuring coin auction, bourse, dinner and entertainment, is in fact a little convention. It has become quite popular in the San Francisco Bay region. One of the organizers of this annual event and, for the past several years its general chairman, is A. W. "Walt" Ritchie.

Alexander W. Ritchie, son of Alexander and Ernestine Ritchie, was born in Oakland, Calif., Aug. 30, 1912. After attending grammar school in Oakland, Walt entered Berkeley High School. Strange as it may seem, his desire to attend an all-male high school was the cause of his transferring to Saint Mary's High School, where he was graduated in 1929. Ritchie completed his formal education at Sacramento Junior College, being graduated in 1934 as a chemistry major.

While in school and college, Walt participated in most student activities, but was particularly interested in chess and golf. Still a pretty fair chess player, he recently has won several trophies in Bay Area Industrial League tournaments. As for golf, he does not brag about his scores, but states that he plays for his own "amazement".

In addition to golf and chess, Ritchie is an enthusiastic horseback rider. While a member of the Oakland Riding Academy, he met his future wife, Jean Speakman. Married April 13, 1940, they now are the parents of two potential numismatists, Walter, 15, and John, 10.

Upon graduation from college, Ritchie was first employed by Colgate-Palmolive-Peet Co. of Oakland. After eight months, he tired of the soap business and left it for a better position with the Shell Development Co. Here he served seven years as a laboratory assistant and then for 15 years as a research chemist, which position he holds at present. He is an active member of both local and national sections of the American Chemical Society.

About the year 1944, motivated solely by curiosity, A. W. became quite interested in coin collecting. Today, he specializes in and is considered an authority on Chinese coins and paper money. Many will remember his article, "Paper Money of the Republic of China, Period 1935 to 1949", which was published in the September 1953 **Numismatist.** His library includes many books and periodicals, in several languages, on oriental coins, as well as books on ancient, United States and other coins.

Ritchie is a charter member of the East Bay Coin Club of Oakland. In

addition to the coinival chairmanship mentioned above, he has served that club as president and director. He also is a member of the American Numismatic Association (1946), American Numismatic Society (1949) and the Royal Numismatic Society of England (1950).

Walt is a charter member of the California State Numismatic Association. His long and faithful service to CSNA includes chairmanship of three numismatic forums, Oakland convention, 1950; Santa Cruz convention, 1951; and Berkeley convention, 1955.

COIN CIRCUS

The first annual "Coin Circus", sponsored jointly by the Sacramento and Delta Coin Clubs, was held Sunday, Dec. 8. Activities, which began at 10 a.m. and lasted until 6 p.m., included speakers, bourse, exhibits, and a 150-lot auction. Refreshments were served throughout the afternoon. The event was held at the Lincoln Elementary School Auditorium, three miles north of Stockton on Pacific Ave. Norman F. Pruitt, 3052 W. Mendocino Ave., Stockton, Calif., was chairman. C. V. Kappen was speaker.

Secretary's Report

NEW MEMBERS

859 BAMFORD, H. J. .....324 Samarkand Dr., Santa Barbara, Calif.
862 CRAWFORD, B. M. .....311 Kern, Shafter, Calif.
852 DIEDRICH, Eugene J. .....845 Washington Blvd., Montebello, Calif.
850 HALL, Harold L. .....Box 666, Oakland, Calif.
853 HARDEN, Clyde.....2717 No. Mani, Walnut Creek, Calif.
861 HART, William D. .....181 N. Poli, Ojai, Calif.
849 HEDRICK, Richard L. .....515 S. Spring St., Los Angeles, Calif.
863 LEONI, James.....1716 Miramar St., Los Angeles 26, Calif.
858 MASON, Charles E., M.D. .....202 E. Las Tunas Dr., San Gabriel, Calif.
847 PAINTER, Kenyon V. .....P.O. Box 865, Phoenix, Ariz.
860 PCNS JUNIOR COIN COLLECTORS
Josephine Randall Jr. Museum, 15th & Roosevelt Way, San Francisco
848 PRUITT, Norman F. .....3052 W. Mendocino, Stockton 4, Calif.
851 ROSING, Arnold.....607 Market St., San Francisco, Calif.
855 SHOSTAK, Sydney G. .....5257 San Vicente Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif.
854 SIMS, E. L. .....1512 S. Washington Ave., Compton, Calif.
857 VEACH, Orwyn P. .....1832 Newport Blvd., Costa Mesa, Calif.

REINSTATEMENTS

206 MILADIN, James G. .....1018 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, Calif.

ADDRESS CHANGES

757 ANDERSON, P. K. .....101 E. 2nd St., Hobart, Okla.
53 BUELL, Colbert F. .....5241 Rincon St., San Diego 15, Calif.
749 DANFORTH, Peter R. .....1059"C" Monroe St., Albany 6, Calif.
440 GUSTAFSON, Alfred.....1551 12th Ave., Sacramento 18, Calif.
379 JONES, Francis S. .....732 Olive Ave., Coronado, Calif.
540 MEMEL, Edward G. .....4272 Estrella Ave., San Diego 15, Calif.

DECEASED

178 MEHL, B. Max.....P.O. Drawer 1480, Ft. Worth, Tex.
428 SCHERMERHORN, R. F. .....1638 Fidelity Union Life Bldg., 1511 Bryan St., Dallas, Tex.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Membership Sept. 30, 1957.....563
New Members 16
Membership Nov. 30, 1957 579
Paid-up Members Nov. 30, 1957 495

WINN OSBORNE,
Secretary.

Treasurer's Report

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, SEPTEMBER 1957

Balance from Aug. 31, 1957			$633.14
Receipts: Dues			18.00
			$651.14
Disbursements: Ireland Direct Mail	$ 31.11		
Editor's Expenses	7.74		
Holcomb Longshore	22.88		
Edward Fogler	5.52		
Globe Printing Co.	191.00		
Coast Engraving Co.	50.82		$309.07
Cash on hand Sept. 30, 1957			$342.07

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, OCTOBER 1957

Balance from Sept. 30, 1957			$342.07
Receipts: Dues			44.00
			$386.07
Disbursements: Secretary's Expenses	$ 3.24		
Ireland Direct Mail	29.58		
Globe Printing Co.	191.00		
Editor's Expenses	9.46		
Coast Engraving Co.	28.08		$261.36
Cash on hand Oct. 31, 1957			$124.71

RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS, NOVEMBER 1957

Cash on hand Oct. 31, 1957			$ 124.71
Receipts			8.00
			$ 132.71
Disbursements			23.46
Balance before convention			$ 109.25

CONVENTION RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

Convention Receipts:			
50 Bourse Tables @ $20	$1000.00		
Registration and Meals	1585.64		
Prize Tickets	10.67		
Memberships and Dues	52.00		
Exhibits and Insurance Reimbursements	43.75		
			$2692.06
Convention Disbursements:			
Pacific Mailing & Letter Service	$ 39.66		
Editor's convention expenses	25.00		
Long Beach Coin Club, Entertainment	70.00		
John Yribarne, convention expenses	203.42		
William Rice, hauling expense	27.50		
Howard Stolper, electrical expense	11.47		
Clarence Dean, Insurance	30.00		
Monarch Gold Leaf Printing, Memo.	70.66		
Lafayette Hotel	877.63		
Pinkerton National Detective Agency	212.50		$1567.84
Balance on hand Nov. 30, 1957			$1233.47

T. KIRK HILL,
Treasurer.

California Club News, Views and Whos

A DIGEST OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CLUB REPORTS

By CHARLES M. JOHNSON

During the last two months politics has come to the front in all Southern California coin clubs. Nominating committees have combed the membership rolls to select and interview candidates for various club offices. Now elections are over and the clubs have new officers for 1958, most of whom will be installed at banquets or regular meetings this month. The next issue of **Calcoin News** will carry a list of 1958 club officers.

At the ORANGE COUNTY COIN CLUB, **Herbert Bergen** made a lively impromptu talk on "United States Coins of Odd Denominations," illustrated by a display of his complete collection of two-cent, three-cent and twenty-cent pieces in uncirculated and proof condition, mounted in plastic holders. He was followed by **Don Shields,** who discussed "The Tetradrachm of Athens" and showed visual slides. The historical background of the tetradrachm was outlined by the speaker in order to show how events influenced this coinage. At the October meeting **John Stoppelwerth,** program chairman, showed and narrated the ANA visual education slide set entitled "Famous Women on Coins and Medals."

Clyde Grimm, president of BAY CITIES COIN CLUB, gave his talk on "Colonial Coins" at the September meeting of the LOS ANGELES COIN CLUB. This is the 12th coin club in Southern California to hear Grimm's interesting talk and see his excellent collection of United States colonial coins.

Under direction of President **Karl Brainard,** the LOS ANGELES COIN CLUB departed from the usual club program in November and brought in five professional vaudeville acts for a one hour program of lively entertainment. With apologies to the EAST BAY COIN CLUB the evening was labeled "Coinival Nite," and gave all 278 members and guests, which was a new attendance record, a treat, especially when five cakes, two by three feet, were unveiled. Almost $200 in door prizes, comprising gold coins, was distributed.

In passing we might mention that the LOS ANGELES COIN CLUB now has about $2500 in its treasury.

At the September meeting of the SAN DIEGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY, **James Andersen** gave a nice talk on "Coins Through the Ages" and brought along his collection of these coins, which has won ribbons on several occasions, the latest being the 1955 CSNA San Diego convention. This display consists of historical coins, commencing with specimens minted in Rome and continuing down through the ages to present-day proof sets. The speaker told about each coin and its historical significance.

By the way, have many readers of this column seen the SAN DIEGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY monthly bulletin? This splendid little eight-page paper, edited by **Paul Hamm,** is crammed full of newsy items about members of the club, their numismatic interests, reports of club activities and social events. It is well written, interesting, full of life, readable and contains a surprising amount of numismatic information. Mimeographed and issued monthly, it goes out to every club member. If you or your club are interested, perhaps **Paul Hamm** will send a sample copy; or better still, you might join the SAN DIEGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY and get it free.

The 30th meeting in October of the MONTEREY PARK COIN CLUB featured a talk by **Henri Heller** on "Postage Currency", accompanied by a display of his collection, including encased postage stamps. In November the ANA slide set on commemorative coins was shown. This club is very active, with an attendance of 30 to 40 at each meeting.

COVINA COIN CLUB, with 67 members and guests present for the September meeting, heard **Dan Harley** talk on "Mexican Coins" and examined his large display. He said, "The term 'bit' originated from the need for small coins, which resulted in larger coins, such as the Mexican pillar dollar, being cut into smaller pieces. These pieces were called 'bits'. Today the term is widely and correctly used for two-bits, four-bits and six-bits." Speaker also displayed a Maximilian dinner plate of pure silver, weighing two pounds.

At the November meetings of the COVINA COIN CLUB and the NORWALK COIN CLUB, **Charles M. Johnson** gave his talk on "United States Paper Money" and displayed part of his collection. Nine coin clubs have now heard this talk.

Dr. Verner Rich discussed "Japanese Coinage" at the October meeting of the LONG BEACH COIN CLUB. "The first coinage of Japan was minted from native copper about 708 A.D.," he said. "About 250 years later all coinage stopped, because copper was used to make statues of Buddha, and for 600 years no coins were minted in Japan. During the interval, Chinese coins were used. Later coins of gold, silver, brass, pewter and lead were minted. Early specimens of Japanese coinage are uncollectible, with the few known specimens being held in the Japanese Imperial family collection. However, copies made by the government mint are offered for sale to collectors." **Dr. Rich** displayed modern Japanese coins and copies of the early coinage.

Five members of the LONG BEACH COIN CLUB have never missed a meeting since formation of the club in 1950.

BAY CITY COIN CLUB's annual banquet was held at the Brandt Restaurant on Venice Blvd. during November. **Clyde Grimm** was master of ceremonies. Forty-nine were present for a steak dinner.

NASC WINTER CONVENTION

Numismatic Association of Southern California will hold its annual convention at the New Statler Hotel in downtown Los Angeles, Feb. 28 and March 1-2. Headquarters will be the Wilshire Room, where space is available for 52 bourse tables and a large number of exhibits. W. R. Fanning will be general convention chairman. George Bennett will conduct the forum.

Abner Kreisberg, professional numismatist, will handle the two-session public coin auction of 2500 lots. An auction catalog may be obtained by writing Kreisberg, 228 N. Beverly Dr., Beverly Hills, Calif.

Anyone interested in entering an exhibit may contact C. A. Dunbar, exhibits chairman, 937 S. La Brea, Inglewood, Calif.

Bourse dealers, who pay $25, may reserve space by writing Karl M. Brainard, P.O. Box 66-515, Los Angeles 66, Calif.

ADDITIONAL CLUBS

In the September **Calcoin News**, places, dates, times of meetings and numbers of members of 20 Southern California coin clubs were listed. There are two other active clubs which should be included in the list:

'49ers COIN CLUB

The '49ers Coin Club meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the Lynwood Community Center (intersection of Bullis Road and Century Blvd.), Lynwood, Calif. This club has 68 members and an attendance of about 40 persons at each meeting. It was started early in 1957 with 25 charter members.

VENTURA COUNTY COIN CLUB

Ventura County Coin Club meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at the Harbor District Bldg., Dock, Port Hueneme, Calif. This club, with 30 members, has undertaken a community project of raising one million pennies for the local boys' club and other community projects in the Oxnard area. The club reserves the right to check all pennies for valuable numismatic items, which will be sold and the funds placed in club treasury. According to Richard McKnight, president of the club, the project is receiving community support and nearing completion, even though it will take every available penny in the area out of circulation.

—CSNA—

The word "currency" is derived from the Latin "currere" meaning "to run".

A DIGEST OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CLUB REPORTS

By JOHN E. OHLS

Attendance at the Nov. 8 meeting of the EAST BAY COIN CLUB was small, as many members were at the Long Beach convention. There were four exhibitors. **Sidney Haas** spoke on "Numismatic Milestones," covering a period from ancient times to present. The talk was illustrated by 54 pieces. It was reported that **Frank X. Galvin** is back in his shop and that **Edward Fogler**, who suffered a recent attack, is feeling better but unable to attend the Long Beach convention. Recommendations for 1958 officers were reported by the nominations committee.

LIBERTY NUMISMATIC SOCIETY growth seems slow but steady. Plans are now underway to form a Junior Division, sponsored by the Society. There was a change in meeting place for the November meeting, the Bel-Mateo Bowl in San Mateo. This may become the permanent meeting place if it can be worked out to the satisfaction of all concerned.

The PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY celebrated its 500th meeting Oct. 31. It was organized in 1915. Active past presidents of the Society were presented silver medals. Seal of the Society is on obverse; recipient's name and the period he served, on reverse. Nine were so honored: **Ralph Mitchell, Earl A. Parker, Stanley Blois, Mark Morris, David L. Redfield, Roy Hill, Clifford Bloom, Lesley G. Lodge** and **John E. Ohls.** Refreshments were served and a fine auction was conducted by Donald Rhodes. There were 81 present, largest known attendance.

Twenty-one members and friends attended the Nov. 4 meeting of the SAN JOSE COIN CLUB, presided over by Vice-President **Beverly Gayle Smith. George Hodges,** ANA representative, explained the advantages of ANA membership and conducted a numismatic quiz.

Vice-President **Donald Rhodes** conducted the November meeting of the PETALUMA COIN COLLECTORS in the absence of the president. It was "Other Hobbies" night, and there was a surprising variety of exhibits. A prize usually is awarded the exhibitor with lucky number.

The October meeting was presided over by President **Dorothy Lumsden. Roy Hill** of San Francisco spoke on "Numismatic Potpourri," illustrating his talk with numerous things used as money at one time or another.

The 100th meeting of the REDWOOD EMPIRE COIN CLUB was held at the Saddle and Sirloin Nov. 11. Although **Guy L. Chapman,** secretary-treasurer, had a date for an operation and couldn't be there, the club voted to give him three of the

Eight of nine active past presidents received medals of that office during 500th meeting of PCNS Oct. 31. Left to right, they are: Ralph A. Mitchell, Earl A. Parker, Stanley L. Blois, Mark M. Morris, David L. Redfield, Clifford H. Bloom, Lesley G. Lodge and John E. Ohls. At extreme right is Robert C. Patterson, present president. Missing from the picture is Roy Hill, who received his medal during the November meeting. —Photo by Paul D. Snedaker, Treasurer.

new $1 bills bearing the motto, "In God We Trust." Chapman says he never will part with them. The club is trying to settle on a meeting night which will not conflict with that of its neighbor clubs.

The 99th meeting was held at the new meeting place, the Saddle and Sirloin, on Midway Drive in the Montgomery Addition of Santa Rosa. The club will attempt more advertising, as well as place some permanent exhibits. **John D. Cowan** and **Henry T. Wrede** are in charge of this program. There were exhibits, exchanges of coins and a raffle. Fifteen were present.

Ladies Night was observed by the SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY COIN CLUB, Fresno, Nov. 19, with a dinner meeting at Herb & Dode's Hut, 701 Blackstone Ave. Invitations had been mailed to neighboring clubs. Attendance totaled 37.

President **Jess Watts** introduced the speaker, **Ralph A. "Curly" Mitchell,** well-known California numismatist. "Curly" set up a large three-table display of odd and curious moneys of the world. His knowledge of this type material is most extensive, and his talk was received with great interest by the wives as well as the collectors. "Curly" was asked questions for another half hour after his talk was over. Undoubtedly, this type program is the outstanding manner in which to obtain a 100 per cent turnout.

Dan Adan, a coin collector for 48 years, conducted the auction. Many choice coins, particularly uncirculated ones, sold for 1½ times 1958 Bluebook. A fine specimen of the 1909S VDB cent brought $33.

The club holds its meetings at the Hotel Sequoia on the third Tuesday of each month. It will be host to the CSNA spring convention, to be held at the Hotel Fresno, Fresno, Calif., April 10-13, 1958. **William Y. Lee** is secretary-treasurer.

———CSNA———

PAPER WRITES ON PANOSH

Leonel C. Panosh of San Diego, past president of the CSNA and of the ANA, was interviewed by Peter Kaye of a San Diego newspaper, on the hobby of coin collecting. The article, which appeared on the recreation page Sunday, Oct. 27, was accompanied by a 3-column picture of Panosh.

HISTORIAN'S NOTES

I now have a completed and bound set of **Calcoin News** for the historian's use and custody, and wish to thank Lt. Cmdr. H. F. Bowker, in the name of the CSNA, for binding them. This bound set is dedicated to Leonel C. Panosh, first editor of the **CSNA Bulletin** and Prof. Charles V. Kappen, editor of **Calcoin News.**

I still need **CSNA Bulletins, Calcoin News,** past convention programs and anything else pertaining to CSNA activities. Don't burn or throw them away if you don't save or bind them. Send them to Professor Kappen or me. If you do save a file and are short any of the issues, write to me. Perhaps I can help you. I now have extra mimeographed copies of Vol. 1, Nos. 1 and 2, thanks to Robert G. McArthur, past president, who had the mimeographing done.

My thanks to Ed Fogler for 14 clippings of the Santa Rosa convention and for past convention programs; to Ed Fish for wooden nickels of the Merced convention; to Gilbert Eaton for his help in the making of 15 new exhibit cases for CSNA; and to Louis Zumwalt, assistant historian for the Long Beach convention.

S. Everett Phillips, 1203 W. Vassar, Fresno, Calif., will be assistant historian for the Fresno convention.

ERICH WERLING.

B. MAX MEHL

CSNA No. 178

B. Max Mehl, 72, died at his Fort Worth, Tex., home Sept. 28, following a year of illness. Mr. Mehl spent 57 years as a professional numismatist, having become a dealer at age 16. A Lithuanian by birth, Mr. Mehl came to this country in 1893.

Best known of all American coin dealers, Mr. Mehl has promoted the coin hobby perhaps more than any other one person. Besides his handling of some of the nation's largest coin collections, Mr. Mehl has been written up many times through the years in this country's press.

* * *

On Sept. 27, the day before his death, Mr. Mehl wrote to the editor of **Calcoin News:** "I have been getting the **Calcoin News** regularly. It is certainly a very nice, neat and informative booklet and I compliment you on your fine editing."